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The Spectator

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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

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Candidates for SA President and Vice President discuss platforms

by Jonina Mignon '21
News Editor

Starting at midnight on Friday, Dec. 6th, polls will open for members of the Hamilton College student body to vote for next year's Student Assembly (SA) President and Vice-Presidents. Currently on the ballot are Tommy Keith '22, running for President, and Eric Kopp '22 and Bryce Febres '22, who are splitting the Vice-Presidency in the fall and spring semesters, respectively. The three sophomores are running on a platform that tackles what they perceive to be the issues most important to the student body as a whole, including climate change and sustainability, greater access to physical and mental health resources and social spaces on campus, and holding the administration accountable for allegations of sexual misconduct.

As current members of SA, all three candidates spoke to the importance of promoting productive relationships between students and members of SA.

Kopp is particularly focused on this aspect of their platform, saying, "In regards to being more transparent, I think it is very important that Student Assembly is approachable. I would want to move the meeting from Sadove to the Red Pit, encouraging more people to come and feel comfortable watching and interacting with us at our Assembly."

Febres agreed, stating, "Going forward, to promote transparency, we will not only hold ourselves accountable with the distribution of information regarding our initiatives and decisions, but we will also push for the same from the administration. I want to promote a positive relationship between students and administration founded in solution-oriented dialogue rather than reactionary impulse."

Besides greater transparency between SA, the student body, and the administration, the candidates also share a common goal of promoting unification and identity within class years. Keith notes that one of his main objectives is implementing more "campus-wide and class-year specific Hamilton events in order to create a greater sense of class and school solidarity, promote an inclusive campus environment, and have students socialize with peers they otherwise would not." He believes these events will contribute to "a more inclusive and connected Hamilton community."

The three candidates also shared their passion for student government and their desires to continue representing the Hamilton student body. Keith states that he "decided to get involved in Student Assembly because I wanted to serve my fellow Hamilton students and make tangible changes to student life."

He also credits SA with providing him "an avenue to make change in a way that both challenges me and allows me to serve my peers."

For Febres, SA "was the best way to have access to the personnel necessary to make a difference in initiatives I found to be important to my peers."

Overall, the three candidates say they are unified on a platform of key issues and seek to promote greater transparency with the administration while strengthening existing relationships.

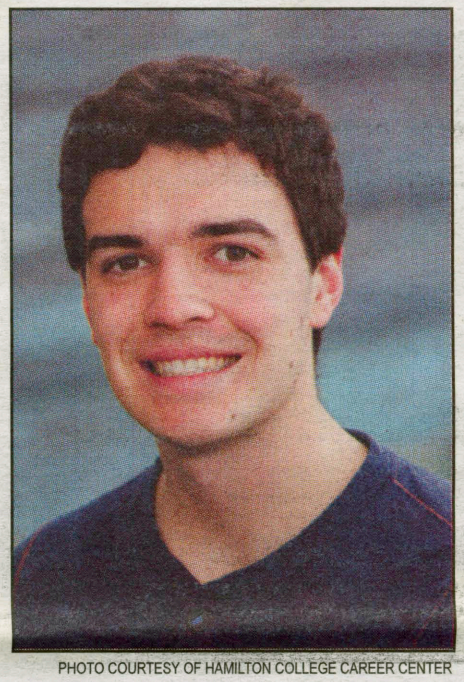

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE CAREER CENTER

SA Presidential candidate Tommy Keith '22 (above).

NESCAC NEWS

by Natalie Halpin '21, News Editor

Williams invites local community to provide input on their strategic planning process

Williams in the World, one of eight working groups at Williams College that is developing the College's strategic planning process, is seeking the input of local residents to help the College fulfill its mission. They are asking the public to think about how they could imagine the College's students, faculty, and staff becoming more engaged in the community.

One way the residents were able to participate was at local forums held on Oct. 16, Oct. 22, Oct. 24, and Oct. 29 in the neighborhood surrounding Williams. These forums were located in Williamstown Youth Center, Zion Lutheran Church, The Loose Cannon Cafe, and The Green.

The group also implemented drop-in listening sessions, held every Wednesday morning in October from 8 to 9 AM at a local cafe. The third way they were able to gather public input was by creating a page on the Williams College website where community members can share comments.

The goal of the strategic planning process is to plan major initiatives at the College for the next 10 to 15 years. The process is guided by a Coordinating Committee, which articulates goals, facilitates discussion with subcommittees, and transforms results into a plan to support the College's educational purpose.

There are eight working groups focused on gathering input about various aspects of the College. The groups are Williams in the World; Faculty and Staff Development; Governance; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Learning beyond the Classroom; The Built Environment; Student Learning; Sustainability; and The Built Environment.

The plan is expected to be finalized by the end of the academic year and produced throughout the winter and spring. These three channels of participation can bring the school and the community closer together.

Middlebury receives grant from Rockefeller Family Fund for New Perennials Project

Middlebury College received a $415,000 grant from the Rockefeller Family Fund for the first year of their multi-year effort aimed at changing the way people think about the ecological and social impacts of large-scale food production. Led by Middlebury Scholar in Residence Bill Vitek, the New Perennials Project features a guest speaker, new interdisciplinary course, engagement with community partners throughout the Champlain Valley, an annual conference, crop testing at the College farm, and engagement with departments and programs across campus.

Vitek is a professor emeritus of philosophy at Clarkson University and plans to build on the work of Land Institute and its founder Wes Jackson. Jackson believes that in the future, natural systems agriculture will provide commercial-level food production. Natural systems agriculture are multiseason perennial crops planted in diverse multicrop arrangements. This will displace the current annual monoculture crop model. Oilseed and perennial grain crops are being developed by scientists in over 40 countries. They absorb water and nutrients more efficiently due to their deep root systems and require less human intervention to produce food.

The goal is to stop the soil disruption created with past agricultural practices, including irrigation, pesticides, and added nutrients to produce high yield. These approaches have contributed to soil erosion, species extinction, climate change, pollution, and social injustice.

Vitnek, Nadine Canter Barnicle, professor of the practice and community engagement specialist, and Marc Lapin, associate lab professor in environmental studies, co-taught a course called "The Perennial Turn." The students were able to analyze how perennial ideas might address issues of social injustice and climate stability.

Thirteen students awarded Smallen Grants to support creative pursuits

by Brian Seiter '23
STAFF WRITER

Thirteen Hamilton students have been awarded Smallen Creativity Grants to support their art projects and independent studies.

The grants support projects that display originality, expressiveness, and imagination. Former Vice President for Libraries and Information Technology David Smallen and his wife Ann established the fund in 1993 in memory of their son Steven.

The students awarded Smallen Grants include: Dehao Tu '20, Charlotte "Charlie" Guterman '22 and collaborator Zach Jones '22, Hilary Ortega '21, Kayla Beardslee '21, Sunny Chen '20, Emma Fighera '20, Teddy Golden '20, Elias Griffin '20, Claire Lincoln '20, Satchel McLaughlin '22, Corinne Russell '20, Nanaka Suzuki '20, and Matt Tom '20.

This year's grants were awarded to a group with a diverse range of interests and projects; collectively, the recipients shared a common drive towards creativity.

Dehau Tu '20 is using his grant to support his senior project that will "explore VR technology as a digital art medium and investigate its potential for helping people to empathize with each other," according to an interview for the College website. The grant has expanded the potential scope of his project, and as Tu explains, it will allow him to "purchase digital assets

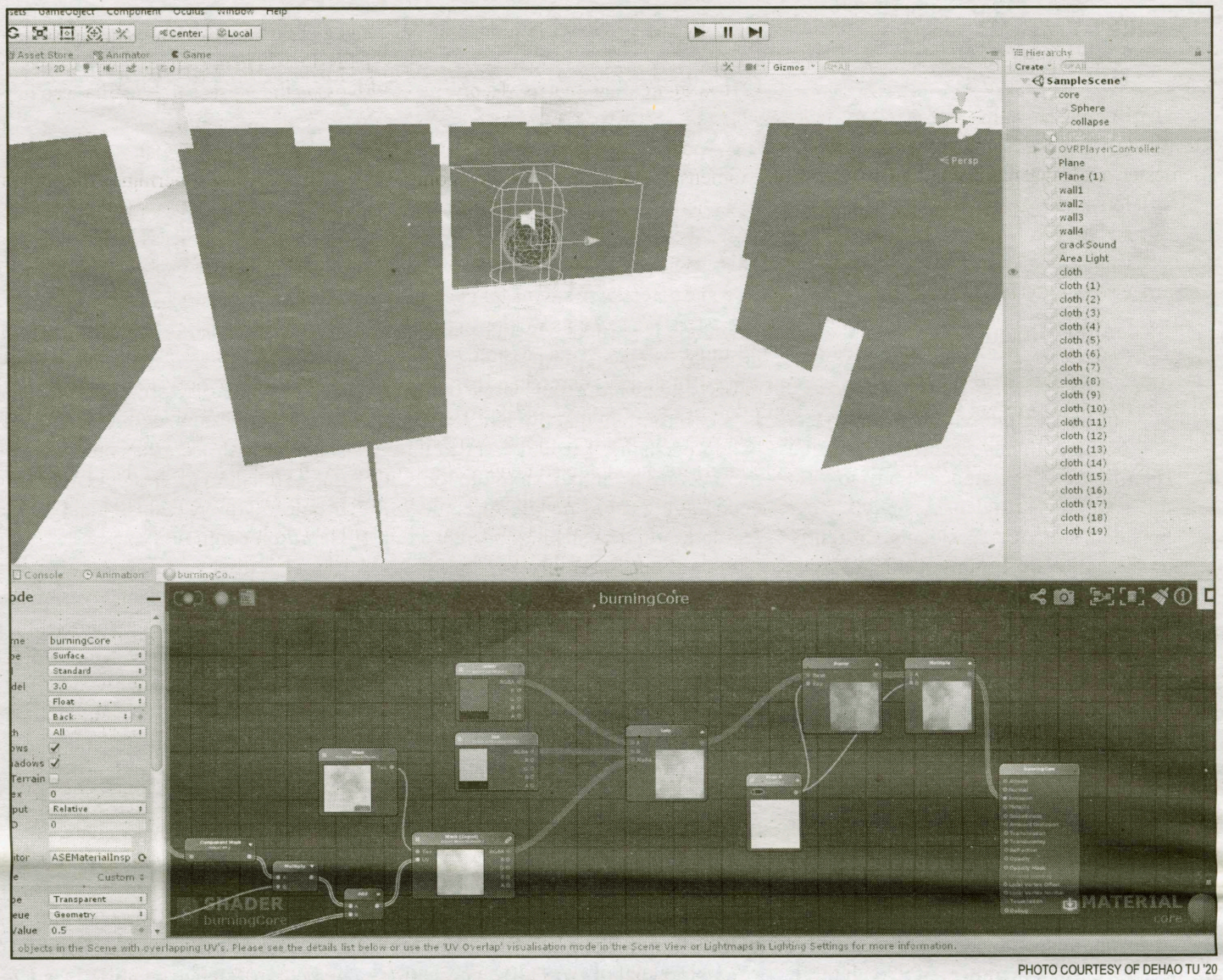

PHOTO COURTESY OF DEHAO TU '20

One of thirteen grant recipients, Dehao Tu '20 is using his grant to explore virtual reality (VR) technology as an art medium and will experiment with procedural texture in "Unity" (above). Other students' projects involve physics, photography, painting, and printmaking.

"The grants support projects that display originality, expressiveness, and imagination. Former Vice President for Libraries and Information Technology David Smallen and his wife Ann established the fund in 1993 in memory of their son Steven [...] This year's grants were awarded to a group with a diverse range of interests and projects; collectively, the recipients shared a common drive towards creativity. "

to create 3D graphics in the virtual space and building materials to make an engaging environment in real life."

Charlotte "Charlie" Guterman '22 and collaborator Zach Jones '22 were awarded the grant for their project to explore the intersections of art and physics through the lens of light.

In an interview for the College website, Guterman spoke to how the grant has helped the duo's project saying, "The Smallen grant gives our project, 'Interference,' a platform specifically geared toward interdisciplinary work, as well as generous funding to support our materials."

Guterman added, "The Smallen gives us generous funding to purchase necessary materials for our project as well as a platform to engage in interdisciplinary thought."

For her project, Hilary Ortega '21 will deconstruct the popularized term campesino/a (peasant farmer) by photographing the experiences of these workers in the Dominican Republic.

Kayla Beardslee '21 will explore the intersection of the various characteristics of music and poetry in her project called LP1. "It's a book of poetry based around poems inspired by songs," she said. Beardslee added that the grant she received helped her project because, "The Smallen grant gives me funding to actually print and publish the poetry book when it's done, and to host a reading at the end of next semester to share some of what I've written."

Sunny Chen '20's project looks at the relationship between a mother and child through painting.

Emma Fighera '20 will showcase the surreal in her photography by using digital manipulation to bring both fact and fiction together on the same frame. Speaking to the goal of her project for an interview with the College, she said, "By creating something intentionally deceitful or misleading I aim to provoke the question: how do I know that what I know … is true?"

Teddy Golden's '20 sculpture project aims to "illustrate the concept of viewing oneself through the eyes of others, showing that the individual experiences that make up our lives … create something beautiful and unique when viewed as a whole," according to an interview for the College website.

In describing his project in an interview with the College, Elias Griffin '20 said, "Using the sculptural figure as a launching point, relevant in its immediacy to the viewer and situation in art history, I want to find the point where the body, object desire, and the flow of information intersect in the contemporary experience."

Claire Lincoln's '20 project is a music video. In an interview with the College, Lincoln said the project is inspired by the experience of "growing up [with] ADHD, taking medication, and how these things can affect an individual's life." Anthony Reyes '20 is composing an original score for the video, and the video itself will combine animation and live-action film.

Satchel McLaughlin '22 said, "For my project, I will be experimenting with different forms of printmaking: linoleum printing, woodblock printing and hopefully silkscreening. I will be using pictures that I have taken as inspiration and break them down into compositions that emphasize pattern, color, and shape," according to an interview for the College website.

Corinne Russell's '20 is creating a booklet that will feature interviews with women from Hamilton's campus about their experiences reading fiction.

Nanaka Suzuki's '20 will use the grant for her senior art thesis project, which will include "paintings on silk that draw inspiration from traditional Japanese kimono iconographies," according to an interview for the College website.

Matt Tom '20 will be using this funding to complete his senior thesis in visual art. His thesis involves building four large canvases upon which he will paint family portraits.

Chaplain Jeff McArn facilitates the Student Grief Support Group

by Kaitlyn Fudge '23
Staff Writer

College Chaplain Jeff McArn is facilitating the Student Grief Group this semester, a role that has been filled by Peer Counselors in the past.

In addition to Chaplain McArn, this small group includes about five students and meets roughly twice a month. They have conversations about loss, the grieving process, and share personal stories. Past meetings have been held on Thursdays at 9 PM in the CJ Browsing Room.

This group was created to give students a safe space to share their personal stories and connect with others who are also grieving.

McArn says he hopes that students "bring the loss into the room and know that other people also have a story to tell, so it's not just this focal point on you. The focal point is on this really mysterious, weird process."

McArn says some view the topics covered by the group as intimidating or daunting.

"It is something that is deeply personal, and it is hard to talk to friends after a certain point, and it's hard to open up in any dimension to people that are going to be gathered in a room together for this purpose," he said.

In response to this challenge, McArn offers some potential solutions for upcoming semesters. For students looking to come to meetings, he says, "One possible step is meeting with students beforehand to give a little description of what would be involved and who would be there." Another potential solution is to encourage students to "just come with a friend who hasn't necessarily experienced a loss, but who is just is there to support. That might make it easier."

This group does not have a religious focus in an effort to be inclusive of any and all students on campus who might want to attend these meetings. McArn says that he believes "the experience of death is a human reality [...] but I think it's important not to engage religious categories in this setting; it just doesn't make sense. This experience of loss is the most real thing that can happen to you. You know that you've been in touch with something real.

"That's really sobering; it makes you think about things differently. I think it's at least important to process it however you can, with whatever people make sense for you to process it with."

The Student Grief Support Group is open to any students who have experienced a loss, no matter how long ago it was. Although "it's hard to come into a group of people you may not know," McArn has observed that members of the group build trust and establish a rapport over time. One of the ultimate goals is to have the students be able to talk and help each other.

Admittedly, McArn says it is hard work to facilitate such a group and is not something that leaves a "warm fuzzy feeling inside." At the same time, he acknowledges that "it's a need that I know exists on campus."

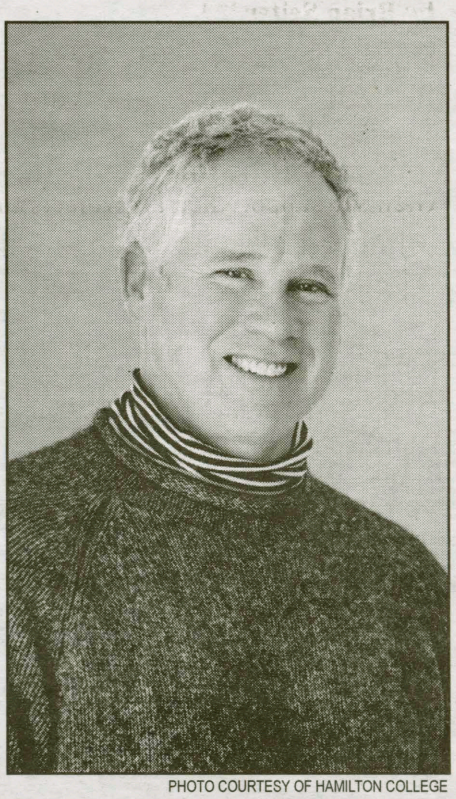

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Jeff McArn (above) leads the Student Grief Support Group.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, November 28

12:27 P.M. Area Check – Steuben Field
4:52 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
5:55 P.M. Area Check – North Campus
6:36 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
6:54 P.M. Area Check – South Campus

Saturday, November 30

2:14 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
4:34 P.M. Area Check– North Campus
4:52 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
5:06 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
6:15 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
6:20 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
6:50 P.M. Complaint – Sage Ice Rink

Sunday, December 1

11:53 A.M. Motor Vehicle Accident – College Hill Road
12:38 P.M. Assist – Dunham Residence Hall
1:02 P.M. Motor Vehicle Accident– College Hill Road
1:47 P.M. Assist – Skenandoa Residence Hall
10:44 P.M. Medical Emergency – Minor Residence Hall

Monday, December 2

12:15 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
12:17 A.M. Area Check – North Campus
12:35 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
10:33 A.M. Fire Alarm – 1 Anderson Road
11:34 A.M. Fire Alarm – Bundy West Residence Hall
1:44 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Tolles Pavilion
3:30 P.M. Area Check– On Campus
3:36 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Bundy East Residence Hall
6:48 P.M. Odor of Marijuana – Skenandoa Residence Hall
9:33 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Skenandoa Residence Hall
11:10 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
11:49 P.M. Trouble Alarm– C.A. Johnson
11:50 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
11:56 P.M. Area Check – South Campus

Tuesday, December 3

12:17 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
2:51 A.M. Area Check – North Campus
2:28 P.M. Other – Eells House
10:59 P.M. Medical Emergency – Major Residence Hall

Wednesday, December 4

2:00 P.M. Motor Vehicle Accident– Griffin Road Apartments

The Carissima Project

You don't need to be a musician, or even a decent singer, to enjoy enthusiastic group singing. It can be fun and uplifting, as well as a great way to celebrate your community.

On December 10 at 7:30 p.m., at the "Lighting of the Village" ceremony on the Sadove Terrace, we'll have the chance to join together in singing "Carissima," the Hamilton College song, to conclude the event. Words and music will be provided.

Hamilton's a cappella groups will help everyone along, but what's really needed are just voices, lots of them.

First year students: You already know Carissima; it's the song you learned in Wellin Hall during Orientation, and sang again at Convocation. Everybody else: It's not a difficult song to learn or to sing. And with lots of folks doing it energetically, we'll all sound pretty good -- even those of us who aren't such good singers.

This event is part of The Carissima Project, an effort to reinvigorate public group singing at Hamilton. Various student groups, including Student Assembly and the Social Traditions Committee (not to mention the Hamilton College String Quartet!) are already on board.

I'd be happy to come teach your group – sports teams, Greek societies, dorm residents, anybody – Carissima, if you'd like to learn it and join in. It only takes maybe 15 or 20 minutes. I'm not a musician myself; I'm not even a good singer. But I'm enthusiastic, and can promise you'll have at least a reasonably good time. My email is dchambli@hamilton.edu.

Just think of the effect when everybody belts it out at a hockey game. Or at the Breakaway, or at a Bundy party, or at Commencement.

Or at your 10th Reunion…

Below is a link to an elegant, moving version of Carissima, sung by Hamilton's a cappella groups on Graduation weekend a few years ago.

Google: Hamilton College school song 2013
https://youtu.be/qDF__wjtja4

Please come and join us on December 10, and join in.

Sincerely,
Dan Chambliss
Professor of Sociology

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

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In defense of virtue-signaling emails

by Peter Case '21
Opinion Editor

There's nothing quite like the fear that grips me when I open my email to see two or three emails from random campus clubs advertising a protest or demonstration or strike or whatever mode of peaceful objection the organizers chose to advocate for their cause. For this signals the flood, and there is nothing but repetitive subject lines and pressure to stay woke upon those seas. I lay awake at night, hoping that I do not get a notification from Super Smash Bros club telling me to wear blue and save the environment.

Last year, I helped to organize a demonstration against the use of date rape drugs at Hamilton social events and case mismanagement by the Title IX office. A couple of friends and I worked with SMART to organize the event. We knew that the crux of putting on a successful demonstration would be persuading a large enough body of students to stand outside in the cold. Hamilton students are busy, and based on our collective experience with campus events in the past, we were pessimistic about our ability to get a good showing.

We kicked around several ideas over the course of several days, trying to strategize how we would make sure that people on campus were even aware of the rally, much less convince them to attend. We were a small, ragtag Public Relations team who believed in our idea and had absolutely no clue how to implement it. We worked out an order of operations that would maximize visibility for the event. Posters in Commons would go up on Monday, we would call the *Utica Observer-Dispatch* on Tuesday, and on Wednesday we would send our first email from the SMART email account to the student body, encouraging other campus organization leaders to do the same. A divestment group had used the email strategy the year prior, and it seemed to get plenty of traction. It proved to be the most effective strategy we used, and seemingly also the most infuriating for the student body. The email read like this:

"Dear Members of the Hamilton Community,

We, the members of SMART, urge students, faculty, and staff to join us in a demonstration this Friday, April 19th at 11:45 AM outside of Buttrick Hall (building next to Commons) to express our anger at the use of date rape drugs against students, air our grievances regarding the administration's response to this issue, and show our solidarity with survivors. We encourage students and faculty to walk out of their classes to demonstrate that the Hamilton College community takes this issue seriously. Please wear black. In the following week, SMART will hold a meeting to discuss the rally and create a list of demands regarding the response to sexual assault on campus."

Soon, 53 campus organizations from the Campus Activities Board to the Positive Thinking Club had sent our email from their own accounts. As the emails rolled in our organizers' group chat was buzzing with "hell yeah"s and let's goooooooo"s. It meant a lot to us that our last minute idea looked like it was going to work.

But by Thursday, the day before the demonstration, each additional email just kind of … rolled into our inboxes without much acknowledgement. We were appreciative for each and every additional bit of support from campus organizations, but our eyes were glossed over with "Dear Members of the Hamilton Community, Dear Members of the Hamilton Community, Dear Members of the Hamilton Community." What started out as an exciting show of solidarity became tired and insignificant. Moreover, for every one person excited about the demonstration there were two others who were annoyed by the influx of emails.

When the "CLIMATE STRIKE + WEAR BLUE" emails came flooding in this fall, I was impressed by the student organizers, proud to be part of a community that cared, and annoyed at the fact that I knew I would spend the next 24 hours having to sift through the same email from clubs who had no connection to the event in order to find emails from my professors. In that moment I knew exactly how everyone else felt when we sent out that first SMART email in the spring of last year: a complex mix of disillusioned, annoyed, proud, and excited. Some sort of social contract compels every group on campus to "retweet" these emails for fear of seeming like they do not care — for event organizers, this is a powerful tool.

Everyone gets mildly pissed off at these emails. I put my phone on "do not disturb" as soon as two or more organizations send out an identical email. But in the end, my annoyance simply does not matter. Who cares if this method of getting the word out there is a mild inconvenience? Hamilton is a generally apathetic campus; we get caught up in our own lives and are put out by even the slightest of inconveniences. Have you ever heard a friend complain about walking across campus to class? About how it's slightly too cold in their room? About how this school is in the middle of nowhere?

This attitude is not exclusive to Hamilton College. People everywhere are married to their routines and anything that disrupts or annoys sticks out like a thorn in your shoe. Syracuse University students staged a sit-in for hours to protest racist graffiti on and are continuing to fight the administration for better treatment for minority groups on campus after several intense weeks. I am sure even those organizers get irritated by having to walk to class in the snow. It's part of human nature.

I firmly believe that we as a student body are, for the most part, good people. We are generally empathetic, motivated to do good, and at least do not explicitly want to make the world a worse place for others. We have a solid record on big-picture questions of morality. But when it comes to everyday annoyances, we absolutely adore complaining. I am not at all immune to this phenomenon; I talk longingly about dropping out every time I sit down to write a paper.

When it comes to generating visibility for on campus protests, rallies, and demonstrations aimed at bettering our community, email chains are an extremely powerful and effective tool. There is no more efficient way of disseminating information on campus than through all-campus emails. Banners in Commons get ignored, Facebook events are limited by existing friendships, and many students do not read campus publications. While they may be virtue-signalling, the email chains we receive every once in a while are a valid way for information to be shared.

So, my entirely unsolicited advice for organizers looking to spread information about a protest is this: choose your placements. Solicit 5-8 groups on campus who have missions closely related to your own. Earn their endorsement and support and have them send an individualized email on your events' behalf. Do not encourage other groups to copy and paste your email. Maybe then students will not resent a movement for a minor inconvenience. Annoyance is unavoidable.

Challenge "diet culture" this holiday season

by Bethany Vickery '20
Senior Editor

As the Holiday season approaches, we are flooded with messages about "making up for" Thanksgiving dinner, "working off" holiday cookies, or repenting for indulging in "sinful" chocolate cake. Behind these ubiquitous holiday platitudes are deeper, more disturbing messages.

The idea of "making up for" holiday eating stems from a belief that weight gain is a moral failing. To avoid weight gain, diet-oriented media outlets offer lists of foods to avoid, tips for suppressing appetite, and 'skinny teas.' Diets promise relief from weight anxiety and offer a sense of control over physical and perceived moral status. Diets sell the narrative, "If you cut out *insert food group here,* eventually you'll deserve to wear *insert clothing here* and you'll no longer have to worry about *insert insecurity here.*" Diets offer a false sense of control; regardless of whether consumers lose weight, dieting does nothing to remedy ingrained feelings of self-loathing and body shame. Weight-loss diets idolize thinness and promote disordered eating behaviors by attributing the diets' 'success' or 'failure' to dieters' personal willpower.

Christy Harrison, MPH, RD, CDN is an anti-diet registered dietitian nutritionist and certified intuitive eating counselor. She defines diet culture as a framework of beliefs which, "Promotes weight loss as a means of attaining higher status […] demonizes certain ways of eating […] and oppresses people who don't match up with its supposed picture of 'health,' which disproportionately harms women, femmes, trans folks, people in larger bodies, people of color, and people with disabilities, damaging both their mental and physical health."

Harrison's definition of diet culture articulates a long tradition in Western culture of conflating beauty with conformity. Beauty standards provide a checklist of requirements for body acceptance and respect. Thin, white, and straight bodies are deemed "beach-ready," and everybody else is judged by comparison. If thinness is tied inextricably to worthiness, "sinful" chocolate cake would pose a legitimate threat to anybody's self-worth.

The problem, however, is larger than just unrealistic beauty standards. It is with systematic disenfranchisement of people who do not conform. Resistance to diet culture has come to the forefront in recent years via the Body Positive movement on social media and in advertising. Advertising campaigns from companies like Aerie and Dove have popularized Body Positive messaging, taking a stand against Photoshop and including more "plus-sized" models. Body Positive influencers have risen to fame on Instagram by spreading positive messages about self-love and diet culture awareness. The Body Positive movement is the most prominent, but not the first form of resistance to diet culture. The Body Positive movement emerged from decolonizing movements, queer advocacy movements, and feminist discourse, and cannot be viewed independently from these movements.

The Body Positivity movement owes its momentum to the Body Liberation Movement and the Fat Acceptance Movement, which started to organize in the 1960s. The 1979 Fat Liberation Manifesto places fat acceptance within broader social justice movements. Fat liberation cannot be achieved without also destroying racist, classist, and sexist structures of oppression.

The diet industry traps consumers into dieting cycles by creating, and then exploiting, weight-related insecurities. The Fat Liberation Manifesto articulated this cycle in 1979, and it continues today. Judy Freespirit and Aldebaran take on the diet industry in the Fat Liberation Manifesto, writing, "We are angry at mistreatment by commercial and sexist interests. These have exploited our bodies as objects of ridicule, thereby creating an immensely profitable market selling the false promise of avoidance of, or relief from, that ridicule."

Anti-diet culture movements remove moral labels from body descriptors, instead acknowledging equal worth of all bodies. For example, instead of labeling fatness as "bad," the body positive movement acknowledges fatness without moral judgement. Fatness has no bearing on a person's worth to society. Rejecting diet culture enables us to separate physical appearance from personal value, demanding respect for everyone, regardless of their body shape, size, or ability. While the platform of body positivity echoes kindergarten lessons on respect, there is a dire need for cultural change.

A good way to start battling diet culture is to look within. Learn to reject oppressive narratives about your body. Recognize the underlying power dynamics beneath your internalized beauty standards. Know that your body weight has no bearing on your worthiness for love, acceptance, and joy. Instead of brainstorming ways to change your body, make a New Year's resolution to look beyond the false narrative of Diet Culture. We all deserve more authentic sources of validation.

Combat the rise of an autonomous society and promote the expression of an individual unrestricted by social norms — online and in real life.

Social media, a sense of self, and this generation's lack thereof

by Alexandra Reboredo '22
Opinion Editor

Jennifer Pamplona, a 27-year-old verified Instagrammer, has spent over $500,000 on cosmetic procedures to look like Kim Kardashian. Pamplona abandoned the cosmetic surgery scene after a botched lip filler surgery left her with fish lips instead of selfie-ready duck lips.

Social networking sites (SNSs) have created a digital space where significance is directly correlated to popularity; users would be wise to delete their accounts before falling into social pressure and contributing to the transformation of a superficial society.

SNSs' affordance of a digital community for users to share and look at posts has subsequently birthed digital social norms that discourage people from expressing an unpopular identity online. Free safety Jermaine Whitehead was cut from the Cleveland Browns three days after he posted a vulgar Twitter rant that some considered threatening. One of his tweets was defending himself in response to a sports radio show host's comment on Whitehead's defense following the team's loss to the Denver Broncos.

Whitehead's Twitter account is now suspended. He is left unemployed and with no source of income to support himself or his family because of a few simple taps against a phone screen and the push of the "Tweet" button.

By giving his opinions on a platform accessible to millions, Whitehead placed himself under the spotlight when tweeting to an audience of thousands of followers and millions of Twitter users. These tweets were not the first time he had used that language or that users had heard the use of that language. However, SNSs remove the aspect of privacy from conversations and instead broadcast them to an audience.

Oftentimes, SNSs are the battlegrounds for interactions between high-profile users that end up gathering a large audience, and they set the precedent for online confrontations.

Rebekah Vardy, famous wife of an English football player, also known as a WAG, tweeted that Coleen Rooney, another WAG, revealed details from Vardy's personal social media accounts, to which Rooney responded on Instagram. Throughout the scene, Vardy was completely transparent about her five-month-long Instagram investigation, which consisted of uploading false information to her private Instagram story in efforts to find the "insider."

Rooney responded to the accusation, reasoning that other people have access to her Instagram account, and even had the audacity to guilt-trip Vardy (and consequently, her followers) by stating that she was "so upset that you have chosen to do this, especially when I'm heavily pregnant."

Each side of the argument was carefully articulated with the knowledge that they would reach audiences of millions of people. The fact that the conversation took place on a medium visible to virtually anyone shows users that if high-profile celebrities are handling their business on SNSs, they should too.

As a result of the lack of privacy online, there exists a set of social norms and expectations that users unknowingly follow; they follow to fit in.

These social norms are synchronous with trends and pop culture. With the introduction of Snapchat filters, users began to flood their newsfeeds with digitally-manipulated selfies that would make the user appear to have clearer skin, lighter-colored eyes, a more prominent jawline, and sharper eyebrows.

Twenty-four-year-old Jessica Myott has been getting dermal filler lip injections every three months since she turned 18; her decision was largely influenced by viral photos of reality TV show "Love Island" contestant Megan Barton Hanson on Instagram. London surgeon Dr. Dirk Kremer told the Telegraph UK that this is not a new fad.

"They tell me they want to look 'filtered', like on Instagram," he shares. "[It] gets more 'likes' and more [social media] followers" — and it is known as the "rich-girl face." The rise of this "rich-girl face" takes Instagram filters one step further and integrates them into real life.

The social pressure found on SNSs follows users outside of the digital realm as well. For instance, Instagram is similar to LinkedIn in that it connects brands seeking to market their products with social media influencers. These influencers build their self-brand by achieving celebrity-like status online. They feel that achieving such status is efficiently done by physically imitating A-list celebrities — that is, posting like them online and looking like them in real life.

Pamplona was able to achieve a verified Instagram account and over half-a-million followers after the initial attention she received for removing a few ribs and injecting foreign substances into her body. Often being mistaken for Kim Kardashian has landed Pamplona her own line of lipsticks, numerous interviews with different media outlets across the globe, and even red carpet appearances.

But, when asked how social media helps her, Pamplona told Metro UK: "It helps me a lot but sometimes I have to take a step back, as sometimes Instagram is not healthy… In the social media era, your looks can never rest. People can easily give their opinions and hurt you, and they forget that you are human."

Although it may be hard to remember that each icon, username, and avatar represents a human being, Pamplona's feelings towards Instagram echo what many influencers and celebrities face on a daily basis. For some, like Whitehead, these seemingly minute decisions can have long-lasting impact on their careers.

Users are expected to behave a certain way on social media as a result of the online culture that surrounds SNSs. Each culture is equipped with their own social norms, and consequent social pressure, which is rooted in conformativity. For some, users behave with the understanding that others are watching and judging them, leading them to act a certain way that is not a portrayal of their genuine self, but a part of the race to online fame.

Users should delete their accounts on SNSs to combat the rise of an autonomous society and promote the expression of an individual unrestricted by social norms — online and in real life.

Thumbs Up | Thumbs Down | Who Cares?

The Rules

Listen, we all know that college is a time to "let loose" and "get wild," and don't get me wrong I'm all about that attitude yaknow. I'm always down to kick it and hang if you hit my line! But you know what I'm not down for? Disrespecting this institution by breaking the rules. They're there for a reason and they're pretty "lit" if you ask a young gun like me.

Getting Campo Called on You

If you have points, you are a degenerate who will never accomplish anything with your life. My mother and I are so disapointed in you, Peter. You better start taking your education seriously or you're coming straight home. I didn't pay all that money to watch you drink away a degree you asbolute cad.

Calling Campo on Yourself

You just want attention.

by Peter Case '21

**Strongly opinionated?
Disagree with someone?
Think a certain issue isn't getting enough attention?**

Write about it!

Email spec@hamilton.edu for more information!

The Spectator

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Hudson Smith '21

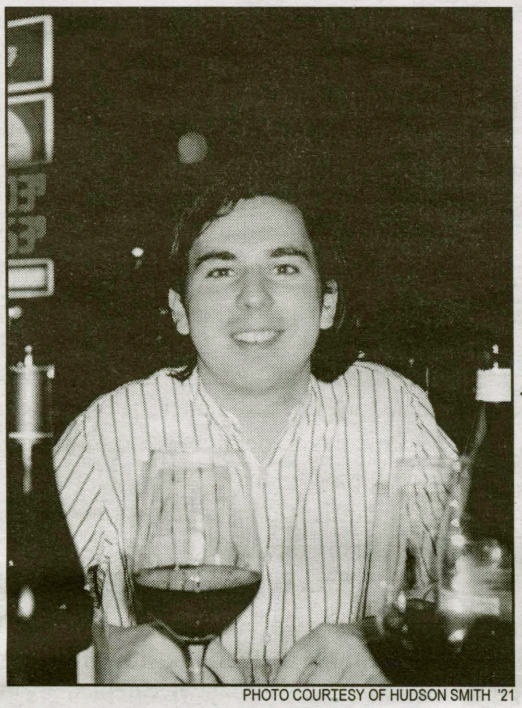


PHOTO COURTESY OF HUDSON SMITH '21

Hometown: *Philadelphia, P.A.*
Home on Campus: *Babbitt 19.*
Major: *Physics and German Studies.*
Turn on? *Hard sciences.*
Turn off? *Soft zucchini from Commons.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Root, because I have more levels than you'd think on first look.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Brittney Spears and David Bowie, because I'm weird and wild hehe.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"More saving, more doing. That's the power of the Home Depot."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Sports. Pretty much the only thing I watch on TV.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Are you a Pie? Because I really want a piece of you."*
What's your type? *Tall blonde bois. ;)*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Sex, Two Hearted Ale, and my tall blonde bois.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Club Huddy.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Yodapez. They are so funny, but my sense of humor might be too inappropriate. Or the Buffers.*
What's your patronus and why? *A wagyu beef cow– so they'll give me beer*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Physics when I get the right answer.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Physics when I get the wrong answer.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Torrey Foster.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Dr. Franziska Schweiger, of the German Studies Department.*
What would your perfect date be? *Candlelight by Lake Michigan, cooking burgers on a Weber grill.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *I have a metal sign that says "menage a trois" right above my desk.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Not giving me a kiss goodnight (Kisses and Cuddles 2019).*
Lights on or lights off? *Salt lamp. ;)*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *Taft. We love a thick man.*

Ruo Nan Huang '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF RUO NAN HUANG '20

Hometown: *Millerton, N.Y.*
Home on Campus: *Sken.*
Major: *Physics and Chinese.*
Turn on? *Poetry in bed.*
Turn off? *Poetry literally anywhere else. And Photography.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Bundy. I'm always lost and no one wants to find me.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Kate Bush (Google* Wuthering Heights *song) and Posh Spice. Posh Spice is the best spice. Spice up your life.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Target. "Expect More, Pay Less."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Medical Soap Operas.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? **"***I want to bring you to the movies, but they don't let snacks in."*
What's your type? *Narcissists.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Old Bundy Dining Hall.*
What's your patronus and why? *A Pomeranian because I'm yappy.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Taking your clothes out of the washer/dryer right away.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Tall, blonde boys.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Hudson Smith.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Heather Buchman, too bad she's on sabbatical.*
What would your perfect date be? *Making a meal with my George Foreman grill!*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Riding Crop (BAM!)*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Leaving utensils on the Commons conveyor belt.*
Lights on or lights off? *On (unless it's one of those dumb salt lamps).*
What's the last lie you told? *My crush is Hudson Smith.*
What was your first thought this morning? *What was Hudson's first thought?*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *Mulan but only because I'm Asian.*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *Franklin Pierce. I've had a crush on him since APUSH.*

Students encounter difficulty returning to campus in winter storm

by Tiffany Lopes '21
Staff Writer

Sunday's winter storm proved to be a major burden for many students, faculty, and employees traveling back to campus from Thanksgiving Break. On route to campus, returning students plowed through gruesome weather conditions. The dangerous conditions left wondering whether or not the administration would see the storm as sufficient to cancel classes. Students who had flown experienced major delays or cancelations to their flights. Claire Inzerillo '21, shared her turbulent campus return with *The Spectator* and pleads for the Hamilton administration to take more precautions to avoid students having to face situations like hers.

Inzerillo returned to campus on Sunday, Dec. 1—the first day of the winter storm—around 11:30 a.m. Knowing that Clinton would be battered by a huge snowstorm moving across the northeast that day, Inzerillo tried to plan ahead. She departed from Boston around 6:30 a.m. in order to beat the snowstorm. Though travel took slightly longer than expected, the drive was mostly dry and uneventful. Inzerillo was pretty much on track to get to campus at her anticipated arrival time, before the snowstorm began.

Inzerillo reports that it suddenly began to snow heavily shortly after she got off Exit 32 to Westmoreland, about 10 minutes away from campus.

"Driving my little sedan, I knew I had to get back quickly because my car does not fare well in the snow," Inzerillo said. She had almost reached safety and had already passed the "Hamilton College" sign on her way up the Hill when her car spun out in the snow. She crossed the yellow line as another larger car came downhill. The larger car collided with the front end of Inzerillo's sedan, sending her car spinning in the opposite direction.

"My airbags went off, and the front of my car was crushed like a soda can," Inzerillo recalled. Luckily, both she and the other driver were not seriously injured. However, Inzerillo sustained a fractured nose and a concussion as well as a suddenly undrivable vehicle.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAIRE INZERILLO '21

A car crash on the Hill resulted in significant damage to two vehicles. Students returning to campus from break experienced a variety of travel delays related to the hazardous weather.

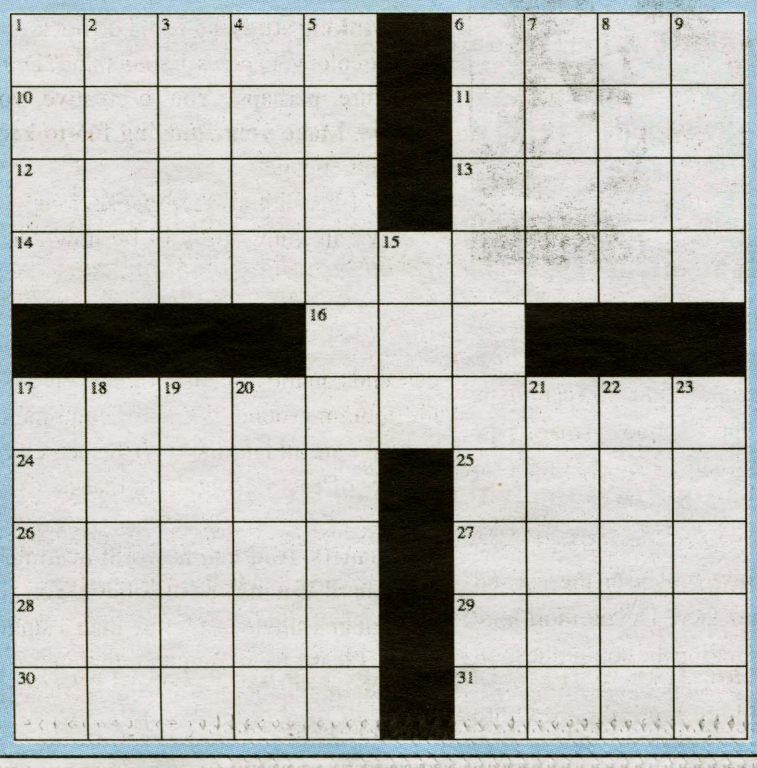
Inzerillo described the aftermath of the accident as "very chaotic," explaining that the entire road was blocked off, with emergency responders and tow trucks surrounding the scene. Inzerillo added that multiple Hamilton College administrators emailed her to make sure she was okay. Though she did not sustain any life-threatening physical injuries, Inzerillo expressed her dismay with the aftereffects. She no longer has a car on campus and says that the Clinton towing company, through Clinton Auto, charged her over $1,000 to tow her car 1.1 miles. "[That] should be criminal," Inzerillo said.

When asked about her thoughts on the College's class-cancellation policy, Inzerillo said, "I would have felt much safer driving back to campus if the College had preemptively canceled classes on Monday." She noted that considering Hamilton's academic prestige, few students are willing to miss classes and will opt to travel in dangerous conditions over getting behind in school.

"The College should just bite the bullet and delay resuming classes until it is safe for students to travel," Inzerillo said. "We are a 100% residential campus… [and] despite College Hill Road being a public road, and therefore the responsibility of the county, Hamilton should increase their efforts to keep the entire campus safe and passable. The hill was not pretreated with salt, despite the very well-known fact that a nor'easter was coming." Inzerillo also reported that Kirkland Police called her after the accident and informed her that there had been another accident in the area, a fact that reinforces the dangerousness of the travel conditions that day.

Inzerillo is now using her experience as a plea for reform. "Being located in upstate New York, Hamilton should be very well aware of the dangers that come with driving/traveling in the snow," she said. "Hamilton's negligence in preparing for the treacherous conditions that awaited 1,800+ students on that Sunday is almost laughable."

Crossword Puzzle



Across
1. Remove from
6. Self-defense tool
10. Drug lord Carrillo Fuentes
11. ____ Lang Syne
12. Ace Watkins, for one
13. Tough to swallow drink
14. Ezra Pound, Ernest Hemingway, or James Baldwin
16. The only way to respond to a dream job offer?
17. Westminster Abbey event
24. Tehran resident
25. City containing the smallest country in the world
26. Insult repeatedly, or 19 Down
27. Once more
28. Every tree in Pando
29. Great Names speaker Fey
30. Biblical commander
31. Where the sun rises

Down
1. Intense anger
2. Theater where film is run horizontally rather than vertically
3. Like hair after a shower
4. Greek theaters
5. San Francisco athlete
6. District court judge's assistant
7. The air about someone
8. Lump
9. Application typically used only to install Google Chrome?
15. New Jersey test prep org.
17. Approximately, for dates
18. Colgate rival
19. Tease, or 26 Across
20. Downbeat
21. Region of Greek colonies
22. Ill portents
23. Like a beginner

From Where I Sit
Hamilton's International Perspectives Column

by Savannah Roberts '23
Contribting Writer

The FAQs followed by the rudimentary commentary every time I tell someone where I am from are all the same: "Why would you leave your home to be here right now?" "What made you come here of all places?" "I hope you have a good coat for the winter." Answering the four w's has somewhat become part of routine. Why this, why that… well, from where I sit, I have always tried to avoid the "what ifs" or "could haves" and have learned to stick with, "why nots."

My name is Savannah Roberts, and I am lucky enough to say that I was born and raised in The Bahamas. If you know me, you know I rep my country like no other. I now wrestle with the fact that I chose to leave it behind. The truth is, I've been doing this "away from home thing" for a while now. Not everyone can say they've found homes away from home. I've had many with the people I've met since leaving the sandy shores at the age of 14. You learn a lot about yourself when you spend a lot of time away from the people who've shaped and guided you since birth. Waxing honest with you, I am indecisive. I've definitely wrestled with this over the years, but I can assure you at the age of 14 that I was sure about one thing; It was time to fly on my own for a bit—to find the power to mind my own ship. I must give props to my childhood friends who inspired my decision to leave home. You see, in the eighth grade, they introduced me to the idea of boarding school. They were already in the midst of preparing to leave home to finish their high school careers studying in either the United States or Canada. I was for the most part content at home. I had a routine down. Some parts I loved, others not so much, but it was ingrained in me. My 14-year-old self could not seem to wrap my head around the concept of them leaving. Thinking about them not being home, made me feel as though I was missing out on something. I was intrigued about what was "out there." I'll keep it pithy. Ultimately, the decision to leave was my own. It was not my parents decision nor anyone else's. My family thought I was crazy because their understanding of boarding school was very narrow. To them it was a place for children who come from broken families, had social issues and things to that effect; granted, for some that may have been the case, but to me, all I saw was an opportunity. Thankfully, I did my research, prepped, applied, and waited for the responses of either acceptance or denial. Although boarding school was not on my parents radar, they backed my decision and yearning to try, and later that August, I embarked on my journey.

In the boarding school environment, I found a backbone in the groups of people I was befriending. I did not realize how much people could make a place feel like home. To be quite honest, I don't think I have felt any heartache after the day I left… since the day I played my last tennis match with my team, ate my last dinner in the dining hall with friends, watched my last sunrise and sunset alongside my entire class. Laughing and reminiscing among the people for what would be the last time, made me realize how blessed I was. I knew I had a family forever and that a lot of the friendships I had formed were bound to last. Being in a confined space makes you have to work together with people, whether that be through a problem in class or socially. I did not realize that trading in my sun, sand, sea, and everyday routine, would afford me the opportunity to add to the list of friends that influenced my decision to go off and expand on the very hobbies and passions that I had and had yet to find. I learned the importance of communication, making connections very quickly. I learned what it is like to share a vision and integrity with others, to represent a school, and I cannot thank my parents enough for allowing me to take part in this experience. I would not trade it for anything. When 12th grade hit though, my little indecisive friend returned. I had no idea what I wanted in a college. Going through the boarding school process beforehand, I knew it was a similar feel and I knew that the most important thing was fit. It is all about where you can see yourself. I was looking for the place I would be calling home for the next 4 years. All I knew was that I wanted to replicate that feeling of security, that feeling of belonging. I wanted to replicate the gut feeling I had when I accepted my letter in choosing where I would complete my high school education. Again, I did my research, prepped, applied and awaited for responses of either acceptance or denial. Today, I am a Continental. I came to Hamilton College with the hopes of finding my thing. While I have always been driven, I have to admit I do not think I have really ever been infatuated with one thing in particular that I know I'd want to pursue for the rest of my life. People tell me I have time, but I cannot help but feel like I am running out of it. I cannot help but feel like everyone else around me has it together while I am still trying to pick up and connect the pieces. I believed that Hamilton College would be the fit for the indecisiveness in me, as it would allow me to explore different realms in my own time and, hopefully, to figure out that thing that has been waiting for me to see it all along. I just know that I love being surrounded by people instead of being alone on my own (most of the time). I just know that I love being there for the people around me, lending a hand, making sure that I can be a person which they can come to for ease of worry. Unfortunately, kindness and the inability to keep still is not a profession. That is just the way I am. Hamilton College is the place where I can figure out just the person I ought to be. From where I sit, perhaps… I think it's time I stand.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAVANNAH ROBERTS '23

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to the voices of international students, immigrant generation students, and students from families where English is not spoken at home.

Tips for a productive finals week

by Evan Robinson '23
Staff Writer

Everyone has been through exam season and—in most cases—survived. But it never hurts to have a brief list of responsible finals-time practices to read, consider, and inevitably ignore. Fully at risk of perpetuating worn-out truisms, I hope this can be meaningful and helpful. I will also try to keep things realistic, because I do not think that being told to "study sooner" and "actually read" does much at this point.

Make a schedule. This may not necessarily be a "study x at time y," and so on, but just looking at a calendar to see where exams fall in relation to free periods and to each other helps to organize and prioritize time.

Try practice questions. There is no better way to see what you have mastered and where you are weak. If the test format is known, cater questions accordingly!

Take breaks. Everyone knows it at this point. Breaks help you focus. But let us not be silly, now. Five minutes spent examining the publishing information of your textbook hardly warrants a six-hour spell of relaxation.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLGEGE

Teach the material to someone else. This is a great way to see just how well you know the content in question. That being said, I know that no one is going to do it. But you should, just know that.

Diversify your study techniques. Everyone learns differently: did you know that? Not every study method is universally applicable. If something is just not clicking for some reason, try mixing it up. Studying can be more than just rereading notes.

Make concise study sheets. When it comes down to crunch time, you cannot be caught reading the textbook—that's just embarrassing. A nice, clear summary of key information will do quite nicely.

Prioritize your studying. Start with topics that you know will be on the test and move outward from there. Devote more time to key concepts. Getting the bonus question is great, but not if you get everything else wrong.

Reach out for help from professors. Review sessions or office hours! Fantastic ways to study. Do not worry about asking too many questions or being annoying, because it is likely to be the last time your professor will see you.

Making studying fun. I do not know, maybe color your notes or something? Draw a picture, perhaps? You're creative, you tell me. Make your studying fun to keep yourself engaged.

Eat healthy and sleep. Obviously…

We all know the drill by now. Only experience can dictate which study methods work best for you. Exam season breathes anxiety and insecurity into the air. Stress descends on the mind like dying leaves on the autumn ground. It is a difficult time of year. We are all familiar with the perceived gravity of each test, gravity that is, to an extent, legitimate. But exams are not all that matters. And that is worth hearing, I think, hard as it may be to believe. You are more than a single test, more than a single grade. Please try to maintain that mindset throughout the coming weeks, and for the duration of your time in college.

Film Club attends Glimmerglass Film Festival

by Karina Bayrakdarian '21
A&E Editor

On Saturday, Nov. 9, and Sunday, Nov. 10, the Hamilton College Film Club had its second annual trip to the Glimmerglass Film Days Festival in Cooperstown, N.Y. The theme of this year's festival was "Adaptations." Featured films addressed topics such as the aftereffects of exile, relocation, poverty, and prejudice; the effects of climate change; dealing with disaster; and, in general, people making the most of the situations in which they find themselves.

Students enjoyed three film screenings on Saturday: *One Man Dies a Million Times* (2019), *Kifaru* (2019), and *Honeyland* (2019). Promoted as "a true story, set in the future," *One Man Dies a Million Times* is based on the Siege of Leningrad, which lasted from Sept. 8, 1941 to Jan. 27, 1944. Over one million people died from the German blockade of the city (mostly from starvation). Director Jessica Oreck's retelling of the event is set in modern-day St. Petersburg (today's name for Leningrad) and narrated with text written during the siege. Oreck chooses to focus on the N.I.Vavilov Institute of Plant Genetic Resources, where scientists have created a seed bank to solve global famine crises. Warfare soon cuts the city of Leningrad off from the rest of Russia, and from electricity and food. As the citizens of Leningrad begin to starve, the scientists must protect their priceless stash of edible seeds from the city. *One Man Dies a Million Times* is a film about fighting for survival, fighting for the future, and fighting for the things and the people you love—in perhaps an all-too-real future scenario.

Filmmaker David Hambridge's *Kifaru* documents the life of one of the last male northern white rhinoceroses left in the world, called "Sudan," and two young Kenyan recruits who join a group of rangers dedicated to 24/7 care and protection of Sudan. *Kifaru*, which literally means rhinoceros in Kiswahili, highlights the interdependence of animals and humans as intrinsic to wildlife conservation. While Sudan is dependent on the rangers for survival, it is clear the rangers are also dependent on Sudan. As time begins to run out for the aging animal, one wonders if time is also running out for the scientists and rangers tasked with protecting the species from extinction. It becomes clear that much more than a rhinoceros will be lost if Sudan dies.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

Hirokazu Kore-eda's film *Shoplifters* (2018), pictured above, follows a dysfunctional, non-biological family of outcasts and misfits navigating life in Tokyo.

Honeyland tells the beautiful and complicated love story of Hatidze Muratova, a woman who makes a living cultivating honey using traditional beekeeping methods in the mountains of Macedonia while also caring for her ailing mother Nazife. Filmed over a period of three years, the directors (Ljubomir Stefanov and Tamara Kotevska) capture both the beauty and the hardship of Hatidze's life. In a documentary that feels as poetic as fiction, the audience witnesses Hatidze's conflicts with the environment as well as with her unruly neighbors who view their home and land much differently than she does.

Sunday's screening also consisted of three films: *Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am* (2019), *What You Gonna Do When The World's On Fire?* (2018), and *Shoplifters* (2018). With the recent passing of ground-breaking and widely acclaimed author Toni Morrison, this documentary celebrating her life and work feels especially poignant. Directed by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, the film discusses Morrison's novels, including *The Bluest Eye*, *Sulda*, and *Song of Solomon*, and their impact on American culture. Despite their wide success, Morrison's works still invite controversy, underscoring the struggles of being a black female voice in the world of white-and-male-dominated publishing. Morrison recounts her own memories of her childhood in Lorain, Ohio, studying and teaching at Howard University, going on book tours with Muhammed Ali, and attending Nobel Prize parties. Through the lens of her life and work, Morrison crafts a thoughtful dialogue on race, America, and what it means to be human.

Directed by Roberto Minervini, *What You Gonna Do When The World's On Fire?* looks at four of Louisiana's black communities during the summer of 2017 when police killings of African Americans were common news cycle topics. As a participant-observer, with his subjects living and speaking about their everyday lives, Minervini poetically captures the sense of fear and isolation that was permeating all parts of the African American communities in New Orleans. However, the film finds moments of hope and joyfulness as people just live their daily lives, and try to endure. Filmed in black and white, the film's striking imagery draws the viewer deep into these local communities with a sense of intensity and intimacy.

Shoplifters, a widely-acclaimed film from the great contemporary Japanese director Hirokazu Kore-eda, contrasts the strength of the relationships forged by choice and love with those maintained by obligation and blood. Kore-eda tells a moving and surprising story about an unconventional, non-biological family in Tokyo who are on the brink of poverty and shoplift to survive. Although this group of outcasts and misfits may look dysfunctional from the outside, together they support and comfort each other, more frequently than in conventional relationships. When one of the family members gets arrested, their underground lifestyle begins to unravel, testing their relationships. *Shoplifters* was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2018 and the Golden Globe Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2018.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

Hatidze Muratova cultivates honey in the mountains of Macedonia in *Honeyland* (2019).

Quiz: Which Taylor Swift album are you?

by Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Editor

On Nov. 24, American singer-songwriter Taylor Swift won Artist of the Decade at the 2019 American Music Awards. In light of her achievement, here is a quiz to determine which Taylor Swift album you are!

What is your ideal vacation?
a) Road trip
b) Castle
c) Beach
d) Countryside
e) New York City
f) Tokyo
g) London

Which Taylor Swift love song is your favorite?
a) "Teardrops on My Guitar"
b) "Love Story"
c) "Enchanted"
d) "Begin Again"
e) "You Are In Love"
f) "New Year's Day"
g) "Lover"

What is your favorite color?
a) Green
b) Gold
c) Purple
d) Red
e) Blue
f) Black
g) Pink

Which Taylor Swift song do you and your friends jam to?
a) "Our Song"
b) "You Belong with Me"
c) "Mine"
d) "22"
e) "Shake It Off"
f) "...Ready for It?"
g) "Me!"

What is your patronus?
a) Dragonfly
b) Horse
c) Nightingale
d) Deer
e) Fox
f) Snake
g) Butterfly

What is your go-to fashion choice?
a) Beach waves
b) Statement jewelry
c) Chiffon pieces
d) Red lip
e) Square sunglasses
f) Animal print
g) Dip dye hair

Which Taylor Swift breakup or revenge song is your favorite?
a) "Cold as You"
b) "White Horse"
c) "Better than Revenge"
d) "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together"
e) "Bad Blood"
f) "Look What You Made Me Do"
g) "Death By A Thousand Cuts"

You and your friends want to do a fun group activity. What do you choose?
a) Jam session
b) Attending a sports game
c) Taking a painting class
d) Exploring the woods
e) Photo shoot
f) Shopping
g) Dance party

If you chose…
Mostly **A**'s, you are *Taylor Swift*.
Mostly **B**'s, you are *Fearless*.
Mostly **C**'s: you are *Speak Now*.
Mostly **D**'s: you are *Red*.
Mostly **E**'s: you are *1989*.
Mostly **F**'s: you are *reputation*.
Mostly **G**'s: you are *Lover*.

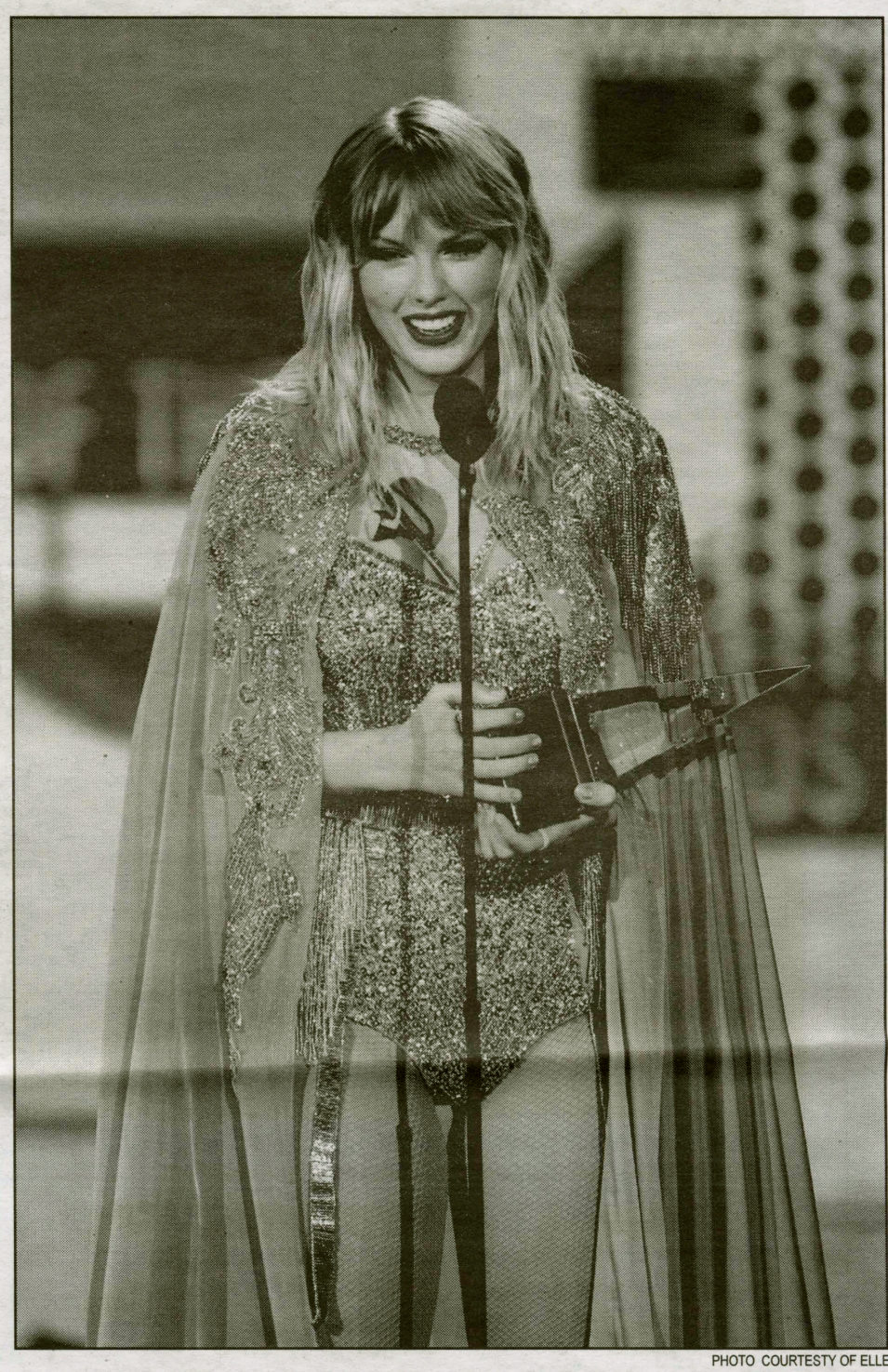


PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLE

American singer-songwriter Taylor Swift, delivering her acceptance speech at the 2019 American Music Awards. Swift received five awards, including the "Artist of the Decade" award.

Hamilton College presents dozens of arts events each semester. Here are some upcoming events, plays, concerts, and recitals to look forward to from student performers, faculty performers, and outside groups!

by Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Editor

Hamilton College Jazz Ensemble Winter Concert
Thursday, Dec. 5, Opus 1, 9:00 PM

Under the direction of Leonard C. Ferguson Professor of Music Michael "Doc" Woods, the College's Jazz Ensemble will perform their winter concert. The event is free and open to off-campus guests.

F.I.L.M. Series: Dominic Gagnon presents Going South (2018)
Sunday, Dec. 8, Bradford Auditorium, 2:00 PM

Canadian director, filmmaker, inventor, musician, and performer Dominic Gagnon will present his documentary *Going South*, a film that uses YouTube videos to explore how the authenticity (or lack thereof) and speed of news have shaped today's world. *Going South* is the second installment in a tetralogy of documentary films. On Wednesday, Dec. 4, the tetralogy's first installment, *of the North* (2015), will be shown in the Bradford Auditorium at 1:00 PM during Professor of Art History Scott MacDonald's Avant-Garde cinema class. Both events are free and open to the public.

Hamilton College Choir and College Hill Singers Winter Concert
Wednesday, Dec. 11, Wellin Hall, 7:30 PM

Under the direction of Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Danan Tsan, the College's Choir and College Hill Singers will perform songs that represent a variety of winter celebrations, traditions, and holidays. Genres will range from Bach to American music to Gregorian chants and more. The event is free and open to off-campus guests.

Holiday A Capella Concert
Thursday, Dec. 12, Hamilton College Chapel, 8:00 PM

All five student-run a cappella groups will perform holiday music. The event is free and open to the public.

Hamilton College Orchestra Winter Concert
Friday, Dec. 13, Wellin Hall, 7:30 PM

Under the direction of Visiting Instructor in Music (Violin) Ubaldo Valli, the College's Orchestra will perform their winter concert. The event is free and open to off-campus guests.

Student Soloists Concert
Saturday, Dec. 14, Wellin Hall, 6:00 PM

The recital will feature student soloists in piano, strings, voice, and more. The event is free and open to off-campus guests.

End-of-Semester Photography Exhibition
Monday, Dec. 16, Linda Johnson Gallery and Wilhelm Lobby

The exhibition will run from Dec. 16 to Jan. 31 and will display artwork by photography students from this past semester. There will be a reception on Tuesday, Dec. 17 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the exhibition.

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Women's hockey starts off season with tough NESCAC opponents

by Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The women's hockey team (2-3 overall, 1-3 NESCAC) is off to a solid start through their first few weeks of competition. The team kicked off the season with a doubleheader against NESCAC opponents Amherst College (2-2-2, 1-2-1 NESCAC) on Friday, Nov. 15, and Saturday, Nov. 16.

During the first game, Amherst players made seven total shots on Hamilton's goal before scoring their first goal around halfway through the first period. About two minutes into the second period, Amherst scored again and made the score 0-2.

The Continentals responded with a three-goal run, precipitated by a shot on Amherst's goal by Missy Segall '21 that rebounded and was then hit into the net by Jess Haviland '21.

Hamilton earned two goals in the third period, courtesy of Kate Piacenza '21 and Maddie Hong '23 (assisted by Nancy Loh '22 and Mya Berretta '22), respectively, to win the game 3-2.

The second game against Amherst the following day ended in a 4-3 loss. Abby Kuhns '23 scored her first career goal during the first period. Kuhns is currently fourth in the NESCAC in total points scored with five.

Her goal was followed by one from Amherst almost halfway through the second period. The remaining goals for each team were all scored in the third period, with Amherst's last two within the final seven minutes.

Hamilton's other two scorers were Berretta and Loh. Goalie Gab Venne '22, made a total of 53 saves over these two hard-fought matches against the Mammoths.

The team traveled the following weekend for another tough NESCAC matchup against Williams College (2-2-0 overall, 2-2 NESCAC). The Ephs defeated the Continentals in both games, 5-1 and 3-1. Hamilton's two goals were scored by Piacenza and Loh, but Hamilton's strong effort was not enough for the defending NESCAC Champions.

The Continentals returned to Hamilton's Russell Sage Rink for a final competition before Thanksgiving break against SUNY Morrisville on Tuesday, Nov. 26. They dominated with a 6-0 win. Five players—Kuhns, Segall, Piacenza, Loh and Michaela Giuttari '20—are credited with multiple points.

Hyla Mosher '23 made the first goal of her college career assisted by two other first-year teammates, Tracey Stafford '23 and Allie Curry '23. It was a very solid win for the team's home opener as they prepare to travel once again for their next four matches.

The women's hockey team is looking to build on their great success of last season, where they ended the season with a 9-5-2 NESCAC record and ended up losing to Middlebury College in the NESCAC Championship semifinal.

Women's hockey has retained most of their key contributors from the 2018-19 season in addition to the deep roster of upperclassmen leadership. The team has clearly gained some crucial talent in their eight first-year players as well. The Continentals' next home game is on Tuesday, Jan. 7, in Russell Sage Rink against Nazareth College at 3:00 PM.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

The team celebrates a goal scored against SUNY Morrisville during their game on Tuesday, Nov. 26.

Kena Gilmour '20 reaches 1,500 career points

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Gilmour '20 is currently second in the NESCAC in points per game with 22.0. He finished last season with 19.0 per game.

Hamilton senior guard Kena Gilmour '20, scored the 1,500th point of his career on Friday, Nov. 29, during a win against California Lutheran University. He is now one of nine total Hamilton players to reach the milestone.

Gilmour led the team on Friday night with 18 points and has already scored over 20 points per game three times this year in only five games played. His season-high so far is 30 points against Caltech on Nov. 27. He currently averages 4.8 rebounds per game and 3.8 assists per game.

Since the beginning of his sophomore season, Gilmour has started every game. In both of the past two years, he ranked second in the NESCAC in points per game.

His talent has led the Continentals deep into two straight NCAA Championship runs. In his sophomore season, the team lost in overtime to Springfield College in the third round, despite Gilmour's career-high of 40 points.

Last season, the team again made it to the third round of the Championship tournament before falling to Christopher Newport University. This season they hope to make it even further and have a great chance to do so under Gilmour's leadership.

Gilmour has been recognized by many for his contributions and achievements on and off the court. These include most notably; NESCAC Player of the Year, NABC Coaches' Division III Northeast District Player of the Year, and NABC First Team All-American honors, all of which came during the 2018-19 season.

Gilmour has also been named to multiple NESCAC Winter All-Academic teams, as well as to the Google Cloud Academic All-District Men's Basketball Team. This season is one to watch, as he is sure to put on yet another incredible performance throughout his final season as a Continental.

Athlete of the Week: Evan Tatro '20

Evan Tatro '20 is returning for the Continentals after being abroad during the 2018-2019 season. He is on the top times list for three events; he is fourth for the 100 backstroke and 100 butterfly and is fifth in the 200 back. He has already earned six first-place wins this season, most notably in the 100-yard backstroke (54.52 seconds) and the 100 butterfly (53.67 seconds) against NESCAC rival Trinity.

Hometown: Titusville, F.L.

Events: Sprint backstroke, butterfly and freestyle.

Favorite Professional Athlete: Lebron James, that man is a basketball God amongst men.

How did you get introduced to swim: My mom had me in the water a week after I was born and all her siblings and parents were in the sport. My aunt was an Olympic bronze medalist swimmer so that certainly helped me get to where I am now.

What is your favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport? Play water polo, explore the Glenn, play some squash with Spencer, and talk to Marge in Commons instead of doing work.

What attracted you to Hamilton's swim and dive program? My older brother was on the team and Hamilton had a good athletic to school balance. I knew it was somewhere that I could perform well and improve the team so I applied ED1 and got in!

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

What was the toughest obstacle to overcome during athletic career? Swimming has not been my favorite sport since its very repetitive and grueling to train at the highest level so I've gotten tired of it a few times. I took breaks and came back with a renewed vengeance that helped me to be as successful and passionate as I am today.

What was your favorite sports moment at Hamilton? Improving our placement at NESCACs and winning as many dual meets as we can!

What are you most looking forward to this season? Freshmen year I had the fastest 100 free split on the 400 free relay after a bad meet to achieve top point scorer for the team. Also, winning at State Champs in water polo to qualify for Nationals in which we placed 5th among D3 schools.

If you weren't on the swim and dive team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why? I played a lot of tennis growing up so I would likely be playing line 1 doubles with Sam Farber. I think joining hockey would be cool but I don't really do frozen water sports and I also cannot ice skate. I think I have a shot at professional badminton in the future though.

UPCOMING home events

Week of Thursday, Dec. 5

Men's hockey (2-4 overall, 1-2 NESCAC) has their annual Citrus Bowl game on Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:00 P.M. in Russell Sage Rink. They will go up against No. 13 Williams College. There will be shirts, stickers and food at the door starting at 6:00 P.M.

Men's basketball (6-0 overall, 0-0 NESCAC) has their second home game of the season on Sunday, Dec. 8. They will go up against non-conference opponent Johnson & Wales in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House at 4:00 P.M.

Men's hockey (2-4 overall, 1-2 NESCAC) will face Middlebury College for their second NESCAC matchup of the week on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 3:00 PM. in Russell Sage Rink.

Women's basketball (4-1 overall, 0-0 NESCAC) will play their second home game of the season on Monday, Dec. 9, against Utica College. The game will be in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House at 7:00 PM.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

The men's hockey team's annual Citrus Bowl game will be played against Williams College on Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:00 PM.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
December 5, 2019

Coast to coast: men's basketball continues win streak in California

by Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

The Hamilton men's basketball team has started their season with a six-game win streak for the third year in a row. They have scored an average 91.8 points per game and defeated six non-conference opponents. The team graduated four of their five starting players last year but the team does not seem to have missed a beat so far. Five first years were added to the roster, which is already filled with talented and experienced upperclassmen players, and have made an immediate impact. Several returning players have stepped up and excelled in their heightened roles.

The Continentals started their season with the Rose City Classic tournament at Drew University in Madison, N.J. on Saturday, Nov. 16 and Sunday, Nov. 17. They won their first game against The College of New Jersey, 88-81. The next day, Hamilton went up against Drew University and came away with the tournament title, with a winning score of 88-80.

Kena Gilmour '20, last season's NESCAC Player of the Year, scored 27 points against The College of New Jersey, which included five three-pointers. In the tournament championship game, he had 24 points, seven rebounds, and five assists. He was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

First-year players Nkosi Cooper '23 and Patrick Mogan '23 also impressed during their college debuts. Cooper started both games as point guard; in the game against Drew, he had 11 points, 12 rebounds, and 5 assists. Mogan scored 19 points against The College of New Jersey and was named to the all-tournament team.

The team's home opener was on Wednesday, Nov. 20 against Bard College. They were in control of the game from the beginning, coming out to a 22-6 lead halfway through the first half. On the way to their eventual 101-57 win, six different Hamilton players scored at least ten points and every available player on the roster scored at least two points for an all-around team win. Elliott Tirbaso '22 scored a career-high 17 points in only 19 minutes of play. Vince Conn '21 made four three-pointers and had seven assists. He is currently ranked second in the NESCAC in three-point percentage (60.0).

The following Saturday, Nov. 23, the Continentals traveled to Keene, N.H. to take on Keene State. It was another decisive win, 83-70, with several crucial contributors. Keene State got within three points with around nine minutes left in the game, but Hamilton was able to pull away again with a run sparked by a three-pointer from Eric Anderson '22.

Four players scored in double digits, including Tirbaso, Gilmour, Nick Osarenren '22 and Spencer Kendall '21. Kendall scored a team-high 17 points, which is also thehighest of his career so far. He currently leads the NESCAC in field goal percentage (70.3).

Over Thanksgiving break, the men's basketball team traveled to Southern California to play Caltech and California Lutheran on Wednesday, Nov. 27 and Friday, Nov. 29. In the game against Caltech, Gilmour led the team with 30 points. Kendall added 12 points and Cooper bagged 11 on the team's way to a 94-82 win.

The Continentals were ahead by 62-40 at one point in the second half, but Caltech was able to claw their way back and tie at 80-80 with less than four minutes left. Gilmour took over at this point and consecutively scored 12 of Hamilton's final 14 points to win the game.

Hamilton soundly defeated California Lutheran two days later, 94-68, after creating a solid lead for themselves during the first half. They were up 45-32 at the start of the second half and led by double digits for the rest of the game. The Continentals outscored their opponents 50-17 in points off the bench and 24-0 in second-chance points. Gilmour scored 18 points and surpassed his 1,500th career point. Mark Lutz '20 made three three-pointers in five shots. Cooper and Mogan led the team in assists (4) and rebounds (8), respectively. The team as a whole made an impressive 61.8% of their field goal attempts in a strong ending to the California trip.

Men's basketball have their next home game Sunday, Dec. 8 against Johnson & Wales at 4:00 p.m. in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House. They will begin NESCAC play in January.

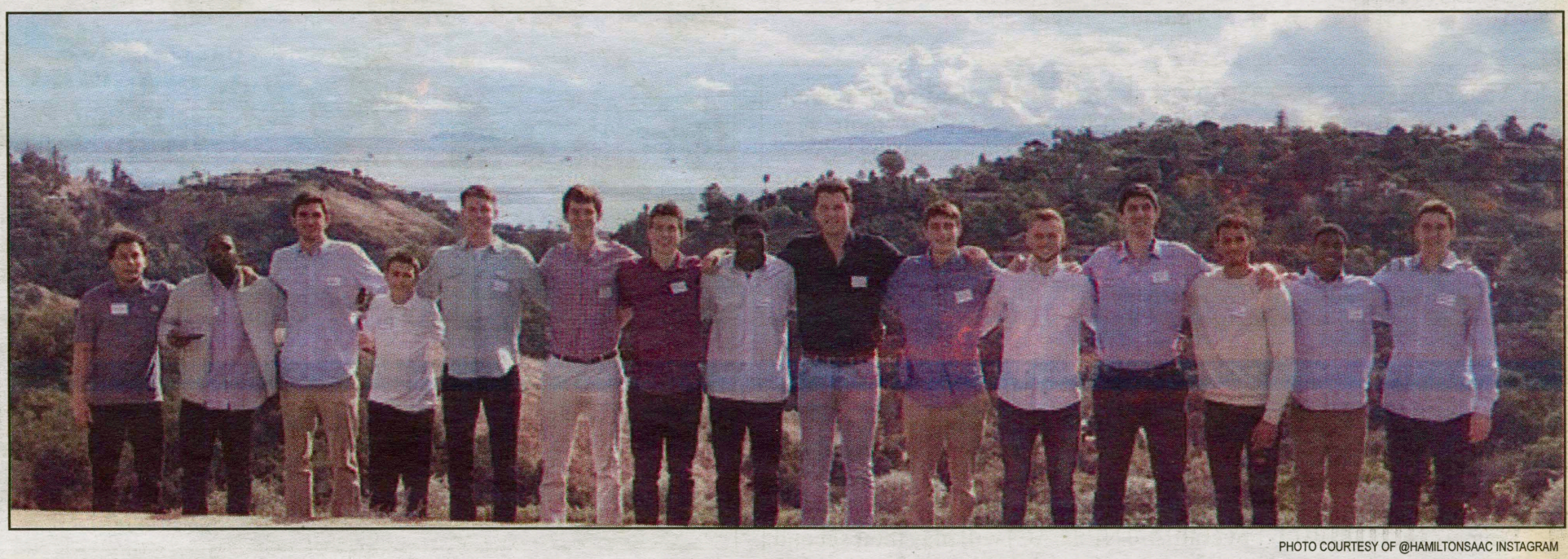

PHOTO COURTESY OF @HAMILTONSAAC INSTAGRAM

Vince Conn '21 (Left) scored 8 points and had 3 steals against Caltech while Spencer Kendall '21 (Right) contributed 12 points to the Continentals' win. (Below) The team celebrates Thankgiving together in Santa Barbara.